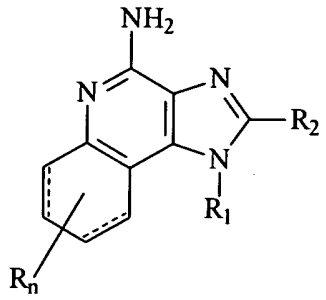
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

1. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of the formula (I):



(I)

wherein

$\mathbf{R_1}$ is -C_{2-4} alkyl-NR_3-CO-R_4 wherein $\mathbf{R_4}$ is aryl, substituted aryl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, or alkyl;

$\mathbf{R_2}$ is selected from the group consisting of:

-hydrogen;

-alkyl;

-alkenyl;

-aryl;

-(substituted aryl);

-heteroaryl;

-(substituted heteroaryl);

-heterocyclyl;

-(substituted heterocyclyl);

-alkyl-O-aryl;

-alkyl -O-alkyl;

-alkyl-O-alkenyl; and

-alkyl or alkenyl substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of:

-OH;

-halogen;

$-N(R_3)_2$;

$-CO-N(R_3)_2$;

$-CO-C_{1-10}$ alkyl;

$-CO-O-C_{1-10}$ alkyl;

$-N_3$;

-aryl;

-(substituted aryl);

-heteroaryl;

-(substituted heteroaryl);

-heterocyclyl;

-(substituted heterocyclyl);

-CO-aryl; and

-CO-heteroaryl;

each $\mathbf{R_3}$ is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen; C_{1-10} alkyl-heteroaryl; C_{1-10} alkyl-(substituted heteroaryl); C_{1-10} alkyl–aryl; C_{1-10} alkyl–(substituted aryl) and C_{1-10} alkyl;

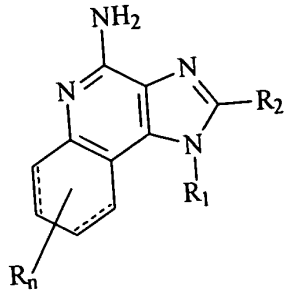
n is 0 to 4;

and each **R** present is independently selected from the group consisting of C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{1-10} alkoxy, halogen and trifluoromethyl, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

2. The composition of claim 1 wherein R_3 is hydrogen.

3. The composition of claim 1 wherein R_2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen; C_{1-4} alkyl; and C_{1-4} alkyl-O-C_{1-4} alkyl.

4. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of the formula (Ib):



(Ib)

wherein

$\mathbf{R_1}$ is -$C_{2\text{-}4}$ alkyl-NR_3-CO-R_4 wherein $\mathbf{R_4}$ is heterocyclyl or substituted heterocyclyl;

$\mathbf{R_2}$ is selected from the group consisting of:

-hydrogen;

-alkyl;

-alkenyl;

-aryl;

-(substituted aryl);

-heteroaryl;

-(substituted heteroaryl);

-heterocyclyl;

-(substituted heterocyclyl);

-alkyl-O-aryl;

-alkyl -O-alkyl;

-alkyl-O-alkenyl; and

-alkyl or alkenyl substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of:

-OH;

-halogen;

-$N(R_3)_2$;

-CO-$N(R_3)_2$;

-CO-C_{1-10} alkyl;

-CO-O-C_{1-10} alkyl;

-N_3;

-aryl;

-(substituted aryl);

-heteroaryl;

-(substituted heteroaryl);

-heterocyclyl;

-(substituted heterocyclyl);

-CO-aryl; and

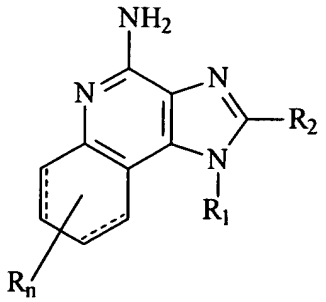
-CO-heteroaryl;

each $\mathbf{R_3}$ is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen; C_{1-10} alkyl-heteroaryl; C_{1-10} alkyl-(substituted heteroaryl); C_{1-10} alkyl–aryl; C_{1-10} alkyl–(substituted aryl) and C_{1-10} alkyl;

n is 0 to 4;

and each **R** present is independently selected from the group consisting of C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{1-10} alkoxy, halogen and trifluoromethyl, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

5. A compound of the formula (Id):



(Id)

wherein

R_1 is -C_{2-4} alkyl-NR_3-CO-R_4 wherein R_4 is heteroaryl or substituted heteroaryl;

R_2 is selected from the group consisting of:

-hydrogen;

-alkyl;

-alkenyl;

-aryl;

-(substituted aryl);

-heteroaryl;

-(substituted heteroaryl);

-heterocyclyl;

-(substituted heterocyclyl);

-alkyl-O-aryl;

-alkyl -O-alkyl;

-alkyl-O-alkenyl; and

-alkyl or alkenyl substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of:

-OH;

-halogen;

-$N(R_3)_2$;

-CO-$N(R_3)_2$;

-CO-C_{1-10} alkyl;

-CO-O-C_{1-10} alkyl;

-N_3;

-aryl;

-(substituted aryl);

-heteroaryl;

-(substituted heteroaryl);

-heterocyclyl;

-(substituted heterocyclyl);

-CO-aryl; and

-CO-heteroaryl;

each R_3 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen; C_{1-10} alkyl-heteroaryl; C_{1-10} alkyl-(substituted heteroaryl); C_{1-10} alkyl–aryl; C_{1-10} alkyl–(substituted aryl) and C_{1-10} alkyl;

n is 0 to 4;

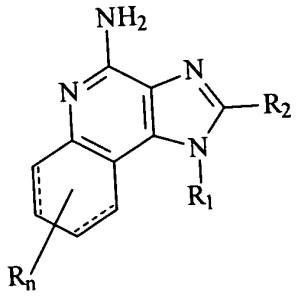
and each **R** present is independently selected from the group consisting of C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{1-10} alkoxy, halogen and trifluoromethyl, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

6. A compound of claim 5 wherein n is 0.

7. A compound of claim 5 wherein R_2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, and C_{1-4} alkyl-O-C_{1-4} alkyl.

8. A compound of claim 5 wherein R_3 is hydrogen.

9. A compound of the formula (Ie):



(Ie)

wherein

R_1 is -C_{2-4} alkyl-NR_3-CO-C_{1-8} alkyl;

R_2 is selected from the group consisting of:

-hydrogen;

-alkyl;

-alkenyl;

-aryl;

-(substituted aryl);

-heteroaryl;

-(substituted heteroaryl);

-heterocyclyl;

-(substituted heterocyclyl);

-alkyl-O-aryl;

-alkyl -O-alkyl;

-alkyl-O-alkenyl; and

-alkyl or alkenyl substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of:

-OH;

-halogen;

-$N(R_3)_2$;

-$CO\text{-}N(R_3)_2$;

-$CO\text{-}C_{1\text{-}10}$ alkyl;

-N_3;

-aryl;

-(substituted aryl);

-heteroaryl;

-(substituted heteroaryl);

-heterocyclyl;

-(substituted heterocyclyl);

-CO-aryl; and

-CO-heteroaryl;

each $\mathbf{R_3}$ is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen; $C_{1\text{-}10}$ alkyl-heteroaryl; $C_{1\text{-}10}$ alkyl-(substituted heteroaryl); $C_{1\text{-}10}$ alkyl–aryl; $C_{1\text{-}10}$ alkyl–(substituted aryl) and $C_{1\text{-}10}$ alkyl;

n is 0 to 4;

and each **R** present is independently selected from the group consisting of $C_{1\text{-}10}$ alkyl, $C_{1\text{-}10}$ alkoxy, halogen and trifluoromethyl, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

10. A compound of claim 9 wherein n is 0.

11. A compound of claim 9 wherein R_2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, and C_{1-4} alkyl-O-C_{1-4} alkyl.

12. A compound of claim 9 wherein R_3 is hydrogen.

13. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of:

(2*S*,3*S*)-*N*-{4-[4-amino-2-(2-methoxyethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]butyl}-1-methyl-5-oxo-2-pyridin-3-ylpyrrolidine-3-carboxamide;

N-{4-[4-amino-2-(2-methoxyethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]butyl}-1-[(4-*tert*-butylphenyl)sulfonyl]-L-prolinamide;

N-[8-(4-amino-2-butyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)octyl]benzamide;

N-{8-[4-amino-2-(2-methoxyethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]octyl}benzamide;

N-[3-(4-amino-2-butyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)propyl]benzamide;

N-{3-[4-amino-2-(2-methoxyethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]-2,2-dimethylpropyl}benzamide;

N-[8-(4-amino-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)octyl]benzamide;

N-{3-[4-amino-2-(3-phenoxypropyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]propyl}-4-bromobenzamide;

N-{3-[4-amino-2-(3-phenoxypropyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]propyl}benzamide;

N-{3-[4-amino-2-(2-methoxyethyl)-6,7,8,9-tetrahydro-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]propyl}benzamide; and

N-{3-[4-amino-2-(2-methoxyethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]propyl}benzamide; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

14. A compound selected from the group consisting of:

N-{4-[4-amino-2-(2-methoxyethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]butyl}isoquinoline-3-carboxamide;

N-{4-[4-amino-2-(2-methoxyethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]butyl}quinoline-3-carboxamide;

N-{4-[4-amino-2-(2-methoxyethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]butyl}quinoxaline-2-carboxamide;

N-[3-(4-amino-2-butyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)propyl]isoquinoline-3-carboxamide;

N-{3-[4-amino-2-(2-methoxyethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]propyl}isoquinoline-3-carboxamide;

N-[4-(4-amino-2-ethyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]cyclopentanecarboxamide;

N-[4-(4-amino-2-methyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-[4-(4-amino-2-ethyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]-2-methylpropanamide;

N-[4-(4-amino-2-ethyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]butanamide;

N-[4-(4-amino-2-methyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]cyclopentanecarboxamide;

N-[4-(4-amino-2-methyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]-2-methylpropanamide;

N-[4-(4-amino-2-methyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]butanamide;

N-[4-(4-amino-2-ethyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)butyl]cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-[3-(4-amino-2-methyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)propyl]cyclohexanecarboxamide;

N-[3-(4-amino-2-methyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)propyl]cyclopentanecarboxamide;

N-[3-(4-amino-2-methyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)propyl]-2-methylpropanamide;

N-[3-(4-amino-2-methyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl)propyl]butanamide; and

N-{2-[4-amino-2-(ethoxymethyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-1-yl]-1,1-dimethylethyl}-2-ethoxyacetamide;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

15. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 5 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

16. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 9 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

17 A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 14 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

18. A method of inducing cytokine biosynthesis in an animal comprising administering an effective amount of a composition of claim 1 to the animal.

19. A method of inducing cytokine biosynthesis in an animal comprising administering an effective amount of a composition of claim 4 to the animal.

20. A method of inducing cytokine biosynthesis in an animal comprising administering an effective amount of a composition of claim 13 to the animal.

21. A method of inducing cytokine biosynthesis in an animal comprising administering an effective amount of a composition of claim 15 to the animal.

22. A method of inducing cytokine biosynthesis in an animal comprising administering an effective amount of a composition of claim 16 to the animal.

23. A method of inducing cytokine biosynthesis in an animal comprising administering an effective amount of a composition of claim 17 to the animal.